Major Woodson Has Proved That This Can be Done

**EVEN UNDER THE SYSTEM** 

## On Which the Wise Men of the East Knock

Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 26.-The retirement of Major Woodson of Darlington to renume his military career with the promotion to lieutenant colonel, will add to a discussion now prevailing in the east. which was induced by a signed article by Senator Dawes in defense of the In-Mian policy of the government.

The friends of the Indian in the east. that is, the friends who make it a busithese to weep over the woes of the red man, affect to believe that the government policy is all wrong. Dawes says mot and has called down the wrath of the Indian cranks on his hand,

The connection of Major Woodson's work with this controversy lies in the Fact that Major Woodson actually did Improve the Indian. In the first place, Major Woodson is a disciplinarian. He stood mighty little of the childis nonsense which is so characteristic of the aborigine, who, if encouraged, soon degenerates into a "knocker" of the most vicious type. Major Woodson gave the Indians to understand that the must be

As a result of his labors the Chevenne and the Arapahoes have turned into farmers of really surprising proficieucy. In the first place, they are living on farms, not in huddled groups of wig-They have abandoned polygamy at Woodsons' order. They have given up the indiscriminate use of mescal and firewater. An account of a druken Cheyenne or Arapahoe is a rare thing. Major Woodson shut off on the brutal beef assue, which consisted in turning a beef toose and sending the Indians pell-mell after him with a rifle to kill him. Under Major Woodson the beef was issued from the block. Farmers were laced among the Indians to instruct them in agriculture. Cildren were made to go to school, and no specious excuse from the parents was accepted. The medicine man's orgies were prohibited.

The advancement made by these wan flering children of the prairie has attracted attention in Washington. It was probably these tribes that Senator Dawes had in view when he defended the government's policy.

However, it will be interesting to hear what the sentimental friends of the Indians in the east have to say in regard to the condition of the red man. They surely cannot know of the situation in the Cheynne and Arapahoe country.

The sentiments of the eastern India advocate are best represented by the New York Evening Post, which is their brgan. In regard to Senator Dawes' assertions it sava:

"Ex-Senator Dawes has done so much good public service, and has come to be ernment supervision, actually advanced? recognized as so much of an expert on matters affecting the North American Intabe but to keep the Philippine Islands. so as to bring our splendid machinery as a missionary nation to bear on the natives there for their eternal good, /now claim the senator as an active champion, tising his very name as a weapon, be rause what he have about the Indians and the success of our government in governing them is said in the tone of a judge rather than a witness.

When Mr. Dawes undertakes to show

that the government policy with the Indians has been a success, he lays his hand to a very large contract. He calls attention to the fact that the Indians are increasing in numbers, as if this bore upon the question of our success with our red wards. It seems not to have occurred him that if we were to permit the inhabitants of our poorhouses to marry and were to undertake to support the offspring of such marriages as liberally as we support the adult paupers, we should see a marvelous growth in te element of our population which lives without work To leave the Indian a war-making nomad would have been, as Mr. Dawes properly suggests, intolerable. By shutting him tip on a reservation, giving him food, clothing, and shelter for nothing, allowing him to exercise absolute freedom in social and domestic matters, and taking him and his squaw, we have vastly improved his chances of life and the chance It follow from this that we have improv ed him? Mr. Dawes evidently believes most persistent and successful advocates of the policy of throwing open the reser. various, giving the Indian his allotment of land for his own, and requiring him to take care of himself and family like other people. This policy was adopted view to making him a part, by absorption, of our civilized life. question, therefore, reverts to our success in attaining this particular end-Have we succeeded in the civilization of the Indian by absorption?

"There are, in round numbers, \$53,000 Indians more or less under the care of the government. For the sake of ease in calculation, we may call the total population of the United States proper 5,000,000. This would give us one Indian to every 300 of our population. If every ecommunity had its due proportion, the city of New York would contain, say, 18,000; there would be 7,000 in the state of Massachusetts, and so on. In stead of that, the bulk of our Indian population is scattered through certain states and territories of the west, where their proportion to other races must be very greatly increased.

"Mr. Dawes has been a good (Ad of ) traveller, and it would be curious to know how many Indians he has ever found settled among the whites of the west and forming in any proper sense a part of the local population. On the contrary, has he not found, except in rare individual instances, that even where the reservation lines have been thrown down and the land divided among the Indians in severalty, the Indians form a little knot by themselves, with their own mode of life, their own social observances, their own code of morality, and almost everything else separate from and out of

sympathy with corresponding conditions regiment prior to my promotion as licu-among the whites? It is true that we tenant colonel, and with the view of aramong the whites? It is true that the find, after hundreds of years gad more ranging for the proper transfer of our government's control of the Inof our government's control of the Incounts of this agency for final settlement, monial occasions, wear coats instead of I have the honor to tender my resigna-blankets, trousers instead of fringed leg. tion as acting Indian agent, to take effect gins, and felt hats instead of feathered at such time in the near future as you head-dress. This has come about partly through compulsion, the game having been killed off which used to furnish the punishments used by white agents and eachers to induce the Indian to make himself commonplace instead of picturesque. But underneath the white's man's clothing we find in the pure-blood Indian, 99 times in 190, an Indian still.

"Mr. Dawes reminds us that we have 24,-000 Indian children in school. That is an argument from the record rather than from the fact. What we should be more interested to know is the degree of education acquired by the average Indian child. No one will assert that the schools have not done good, the trouble is that the ordinary magazine reader in the east pictures life the schools in our white communities, and with somewhat the same force of reservations and Indian settlements it is a hard task to induce the parents to let their children go to school at all, or to induce the children to stay there long enough to learn anything. Inducaments in the way of food and other presents which would astonish a friend of education in the east have to be used to keep the schools populated at all. Teachers are changed and shifted so constantly that even the personal relation which goes so far in white education as a rule hardly has any play as between the white teacher and the Indian pupil. That is what has made somt of the Indian schools in the east appear to have accomplished so much more than their western contemporaries And yet, wherein does that difference con-

sist? "In the western schools, besides their A-B-C's, the children learn that white people of the better class try to keep their clothes mended and their bodies clean, sit at a table for meals and sleep on beds raised off the ground. This is of valuto an Indian child if it afterward goes to live in a white family, but for practical purposes in its own home, it amounts to very lettle. In the eastern schools, partic ularly those which practice the outing sys tem, the children see something of the interior of white homes while they are still gettin gtreir education. But the agriculture which a boy learns in Massachu setts or Pennsylvania is of no more us to him when he goes back to Wyoming or Arigona than so much Greek. The girls are taught to cook with ranges and stoves, to wash and fron and starch linen, and this would be of great value if they were to settle in any white community where cook stoves and starched linen are the rule. But how many young Indians has Mr. Dawes ever seen following the common industries, after the methods taught them by their white instructors at schools? How many Indian girls does he se working in city laundries, east or west, or going out to household service? How many cook stoves has he ever seen in Indian homes-always, of course, excepting the towns of the Indian Territory, which are largely peopled by balf-breeds and whites? How many Indians has he found earning their living at shoemaking or blacksmithing, on their own account? If we are looking at results, and not at the mere figures of the official report sent in from agencies and schools, how far has the edeucation of the Indian, under gov Then we come to the land question,

Mr. Dawes tells us that 55,467 Indians own dians, that it seems a pity to see him farms, aggregating 6,708,623 acres, but adhow quoted as he is on the strength of mits that less than one-sixth of this area his latest Atlantic Monthly article. The has been fenced in. How large a propornewspapers which have been insisting tion of the farms are actually under cultithe first place, the Indian farm-owner may be a broken-diwn octogenarian, or a suckling babe, a woman, or a boy at school: The allotments, when made, are made per capita, regardless of age, sex, or physical condision. But even if we threw out of our calculation the Indians incapable for various reasons of doing their own farming, which would, perhaps, exclude two-thirds, what do we find to be the fact with the remainder? How many adult, able-bodie Indians-abundantly capable, if they had been civilized whites, of taking care of themselves and their property-has Mr. Dawes found working their own farms? Of those who are working their farms, how many has he found working every avable acre, or anything approaching that? The records of the interior deperiment tell a story very different from that which would appear from a mere glance at the conventional tagles of figures. The average Indian has either a good farm or a poor one. If he has a poor one, he would starve to death if he depended upon it for a living, so he does not try; if he has a good one, the first thing he does with it

is to lease it to a white man.

"This is not a pessimistic wail. There are Indians here and there who pass the ordeal of the transition state successfully, but they are the rare exceptions who prove care of his children as we take care of the rule. The schools are doing good, because they are bringing the younger gencration of Indians into contact with a few his race for multiplication. But does white people of a better class than habitually cluster around the edges of a reservation. These children will have children that it does not, for he was one of the in turn, who will start in life with less terror and distrust of the whites than their parents did. The land-allotment system is doing good, because it breaks up the pauperising reservation, which is an anomaly in our social system. But it works its good results in very much the same way as would a law throwing open our poorhouses and saying to the inmates: 'Now, you must make your own way, and if you cannot live you must die.' The survival of the fittest is the one solid principle underlying this feature of our national Indian policy. There are many practical philosophers, men of broad benevolence at that, who believe that the Indian will take his first real step forward as a part of our civilized body politic when he has been stripptd of his last acre of land and the last dollar of annuity money which the white sharper can whee dle away from him. This is a hard dictum but it probably has its basis in sound sense. The facts from which it has been deduced cannot be ignored; and anybody who will attempt to bulld on them a beautiful fancy that our Indian policy is a success must give a unique definition to

## AS WORDED BY WOODSON

the term 'success.'

Exact Copy of His Letter Tendering Hits Resignation, Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 26.—The exact resresignation of Major Woodson of Darlington is as follows:

"Department of the Interior, "U. S. Indian Sérvice, Chevenne and Arapahoe Indian Agency, Darlington, O. T., Aug. 24, 1898. "The Honorable Secretary of the Interfor, Washington, D. C. (Through Commissioner of Indian Affairs.)
"Sir-Prompted by a desire to rejoin my

may designate.
"I desire to express my thanks for the uniform courtesy of the department and Indians with clothing as well to food, its expressed approval of my conduct of and through all sorts of rewards and this agency, and for the support given me in the discharge of the difficult duties devolved upon me as acting Indian

agent "In severing my connection with the Indians of this agency and the efficient and meritorious corps of employes under my charge, I can but express the hope that he who may succeed me will be well equipped for the position, to the end that he may successfully carry on the work of progress and civilization already well advanced and which has been so marked as to elicit commendation from those who have been observers and contrasted the present and past condition of a people who but a few years ago these schools in his mind as something were known as 'blanket Indians,' living in idleness and superstition, constituting local public sentiment behind them. The western states and territories, and a barreverse is the case. In almost all Indian rier to their civilization and early settle-

"I am, very respectfully, A. E. WOODSON, "Major U. S. A., Acting Indian Agent.

ANOTHER REASON ALLEGED For Major Woodson's Resignation-It

May Not be Accepted. Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 26,-Notwithstand ing that the resignation of Major Woodson as acting Indian agent at Darlington appears to be purely actuated by a desire to rid himself of a trying position pre liminary to accepting a higher rank in the army service, there are a few skeptics who are prone to believe that the resignation of the genial major will not be accepted. These doubting Thomases put forward the theory that the major is a trifle "miffed" over the way a personally unacceptable man was named as attorney for the Chevenne and Aranahoe Indians while he, their agent, was absent on a vacation, and accordingly be has taken this means of showing displeasure to the department. It is said by one of these skeptics that the appointment of Indian attorney has been held up by Secretary Hitchcock in deference to the energetic protest submitted by Major Woodson when he returned home and learned what had transpired during his absence, and to make good his protest he has added his resignation. When Indian Commissioner W. A. Jones made a tour of the Indian agencies of the coun try two years ago it was with unconcealed intention of trying the army officers who had been detailed as acting Indian agents, and giving their places to civilians, for the ostensible betterment of the service. But when the commissioner struck the Darlington agency he was at once impressed with the rapid advancement of two tribes of Indians that only a short time previous were the very toughest "that ever came down the pike and when he went back to Washington wrote a personal letter in which he culd gized the Darlington agency to the skies and Major Woodson as a "model Indian

## MR. EGGLESTON PROTESTS Decan't Relish the Way the Editors

Write About Him. nd, O. T., Aug. 26.-To the Editor of the Eagle: Your article on the 14th of August headed "Flynn's Speech at the Jefferson Reunion," has just reached ric and found me just recovering from ma laria fever. I am 68 years old and the hot weather is hard on me. I hope you you gave Honorable Delegate Livin Please show who the District of Columneys are. Doan and George, Also Dewees and Wewees. Dewees was in the war with William McKinley and well acquainted with him and an ex-member of congress, and the firm practices in the court of claims and supreme court and gets up briefs and arguments in cases before congress. (Inclosed you find answer to articles).

A. F. EGGLESTON.

Mr. Eggleston is the gentleman who wants the farmers of Oklahoma to contribute to a fund to hire attorneys to lobby in congress in the interest of Ohlahoma. Congressman Flynn, who is elect. ed for that purpose, and who is the most capable territorial delegate who ever served in congress, resents this interference and is sustained in it by the editors of Oklahoma, upon whom Mr. Eggleston makes an attack. With the above letter came a circular partly mutilated and not complete. Part of it reads: "As the public press has called the attention of te west to my claim business

with articles headed as follows: " 'Swindlers try to fleece settlers in the Cherokee strip-Scheme just exposed-Sharpers induce farmers to sign promissory notes for \$10.00.' 'This firm not worthy of the public patronage.' As the articles were clipped seven times and put In the papers, on first page and first article did surprise me to learn I was a slick talker, and all at once such a great man and agent for such a wholesale rob.

executed. In reply I have this to say: "When I employed attorneys at Washington (the same as I am doing now) in 1889 and sent petitions to congress and did succeed in getting Old Oklahoma under the homestead act of 1861, not the first one gave me me and my firm the honorable name of fakirs. I ask these honorable reporters and editors what they were doing when the Cherokees did hire attorneys to sell their fanthom traff for 33 cents per acre in 1886 did they cheep swindlers or fakirs. Again in 1872 they gave attorneys a fee to sell the Cherokee outlet the second time for 471cents per acre. Please tell me what kind of an article they put in their papers when the Cherokees put up \$26,756 to attorneys in 1893 and sold (the Lord knows what I don't.") For exchange how many X clippings was put in then? When these bonds were issued to the Union Trust Co., of Wall street, who have on depo is thirty-four million, and put the mortgag on the Cherokee strip and now because these claimants sign a conditional note to have their case go to the Supreme court, if necessary and pay fielr attorneys, you take the liberty to call them suckers, I infer from your articles I have been in this swindling fake business for twenty years and have never tried indicates: A Mr. Rodrigues Cisneros of cil, the vote taken by the citizens being to keep my business a secret. I have ad- El Paso, Texas, a Mexican gentleman, not a legal election. vertised my business in newspapers as was in the city last week talking about employing prominent attorneys at Wash- the prospect of arranging for a builthent ington. I repeat I was surprised to learn here some time in October. He was shown that intelligent men who I deem respect. over our country by J. W. Maxey of the ful should be so hasty in forming an Hendrickson, and expressed himself as opinion that my business is a fraud. I delighted. He will stop here sgain on have employed a large number of attor- his way back from Denver and may pos-

ing to \$40,000,000, these cases are prosecu ed on a conditional fee which amounts to over \$6,000,000. These claimants who are poor never thought me unworthy of their patronage. When I succeeded in employing attorneys and sending up petitions and did as ceed in getting Old Oklahoma under the homestead laws of 1861, we were not entitled then it reems to be called the greatest world renown faking company. For our getting aid for the claim sufferers in Old Oklahoma in 1890, for all of my services so far in the

interest of the poor, I have not received anything from them." In another place the circular says: "Our company, which is composed of such men as Col. Anderson, of the Ohio bar: Ex-U. S. Minister, who is vice president of the First National bank of Ohio and has a bank in the city of Washing ton; Robt. E. Doan, a stockholder and late director in the bank and late representative in congress and a member the Ohio bar. Mr. Doan, being an exmember of congress, has privileges on the floor that other attorneys do not have. He has written me he will devote all his time, if necessary, in our interest in the Fifty-fifth congress. The above firm can give any amount of refer ences to show they are a responsible and reliable firm. Such men as Hon. John Sherman, Wm. McKinley. Charles Fos ter, Ex-Secretary of the Treasury; Gen R. Alger, Secretaary of War, five ex-governors and many leading and prominent

### men of the country." WHAT THE PAPERS SAY Varying Estimates of Flynn's

Speech at Jefferson, Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 26.-The newspaper of the Republican party this week contain copious comments on Congressman Flynn's speech at Jefferson last week Some of the newspapers break with him entirely; some defend him and tie up closer to the little delegate than ever, Several regret the occasion of the speech without taking sides. Three different views are given below.

is from the Kinglisher Free Press and is as follows: "We are inclined to think after all, that Mr. Flynn's speech at Jeffferson was in the interest of harmony. The Free Press does not pretend to pass judgment on the merits of the speech, altogether, but there is one thing cer tain-many of those who have been preaching harmony have not been practicing harmony. Mr. Flynn feels that he has been unfairly treated, and he has spoken his piece upon that subject. He has given public notice that he pronoses to stand up for his rights, and we rather guess that is the proper thing. Mr. Flynn. s the direct representative of the people of Oklahoma. They elected him, and it has only been a few months ago since they did so. They knew him well and understood what they were doing when they elected him. He represents the people, and they seem to be ready to stand by him. He has this great advantage over some of his enemies.

The second is from the Alva Courier and "We have always defended Mr. Flynn. We have siways been an ardent supporter of him. Even when charged with being at the bottom of the farcical effort of the late legislature to discredit Governor Barnes, we hesitated to believe what seemed to be patent to Flynn is wrong and has worked himself and his party an almost irreparable injury. Mr. Flynn is not the party. Neither does he represent the party when he at-tacks its administration, because he is not permitted to dictate. In this same speech he makes the statement that Governor Barnes has ignored the old soldier, while Bill Grimes and himself had recommended the old soldier for two-thirds or more of the places. We know not as to cher counties, but as to Woods county ,this is untrue. The register and receiver of the keenest opposition of Bill Grimes and Dennis Flynn, who each favored civilians The old soldier applicant for the postoffice at Alva signally failed to get the endorsement of either of these two men."

The third is from the Norman Transcript and takes a different view of the speech, as follows: "That young Irishman is mighty long-headed. He knew what he speech. If he succeeds in passing the free homes bill he is the biggest man in Okla. homa ,and nothing can prevail against him. If he fails, we have his own statement that he is "out of politics." But he won't fail. The work he'll do now to pass that bill will be something enor-territory has the power to incur a valid mous."

**EDITOR ALLISON'S ROAST** 

son, of the Chandler Telegram, has had of such an indebtedness is not in violaan experience with A. F. Gggleston, who tion of section 4 of the act of congress of issued the circular which led to Dennis July 20, 1888, which prescribes, among Flynn's speech at Jefferson, now the chief other things, that no county shall ever political topic of the territory. In this become indebted in excess of 4 per centcircular Eggleston said: "I have seen um of the value of the taxable property Governor Burnes and Receiver Scott of therein, to be ascertained by the last asthe Perry land office and they agree that the chances for the free homes bill being passed in the next session of congress are very oor." Mr. Allison says that he does not believe that Barnes or Scott ever said any such thing, and relates that Eggleston once wrote a highly mudatory article about himself and demanded its publication in the Telegram. Editor Allison continues: "The matter was left in the office one day during the editor's absence, but be returned in time to hold it up and prevent its publication. About the time the paper appeared, the self-styled "colonel" also appeared and demanded the reason his matter did not appear. He was politely informed that 'we didn't care to lend our endorsement to a scheme which we did not believe to be feasible.' He argued that it was feasible, and finally threatened that 'If the newspapers did not help him he would through his (7) attorneys, have the law requiring publication of notice of intention to make final proof repealed and starve the papers to death." This was appalling, to be sure, but it didn't have the desired effect, but did bring a promise from the editor that 'his scheme should be denounced as a fraudulent one if he pursued it longer in the county."

## BULLFIGHT IN OCTOBER Is One of the Possibilities for Alva's

neys to get acts passed on conditional sibly complete his arrangements. He is fees in Indian Depredation cases and the fees in Indian Depredation cases and the an accomplished gentieman, speaking Eng-secretaary of the Interior reports there lish fluently, and is a highly entertainare ten thousand cases unpaid amount- ing conversationist.

Important Tax Case Decided by the Supreme Court.

Does Not Apply Previous to the First Assessment.

Guthrie, O. T., Aug. M.-In an opinion handed down by Justice Hainer, the supreme court of the territory has legalized thousands of dollars worth of warrants issued by counties to meet necessary expenses in the preliminary stages of government prior to an assessment. The question was brought to an issue in the appeal case brought by the county commiss'opers of Roger Milts county versus the Ball Lithographing company of Topeks, and the chief point to be settled was the mooted right of a county to incur indebteoness, under the federal restriction and the per cent limitation, before any assersment had been made upon which to hase the indebtedness. The syllabus, or digest, of Justice Hainer's opinion is as folicws:

L Section 4 of the act of congress of July 3, 1886, which ordains: "That no political or municipal corporation, county or other subdivision of the territories of the United States shall ever become in debted in any manner or for any purpose to an amount in the aggregate, including existing indebtedness, exceeding four per centum on the value of the taxable property within such corporation, county subdivision, to be ascertained by the last assessment for territorial and county taxes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness," is not a grant of power upon the county to incur indebtedness but is a Mmitation thereon.

2. The manifest intention of said act was to limit the amount of indebtedness that may be created by the various municipalities in the territories of the Uinted States, and not to prohibit them from incurring any indebtedness for the purpose of carrying on the ordinary and necesfore an assessment was made as provided by law and within the purvie wof this

3. In determining the limit of power that is the amount of indebtedness which a municipality may create, two factors the warrants or other obligations that have been issued, and (2) the amount of the assessed value of the property within the corporation for the purpose of taxatlon, as ascertained by a nassessmen for territorial and county taxes previous to the iscuring of such indebtedness. These two aportant factors are not the source of animicipal power to create indebtedness, but they are th two neceseary factors by which the limitation is to be determined. Hence, the ascertainment of taxable property within the corporation is the means of determining whether or not the federal limitation has been reached or passed, and it is not to be regarded as the source of power upon which any indebtedness may be basel And the fact that a newly organized county or municipal corporation has been warrant us in construing this act to Alva land office are each veterans and got mean that there is a total want of power to create any incounty or municipality, regardless of the amount of taxable property therein.

4. It must therefore follow that sec tion 4 of said act does not become of erative until the value of the taxable property within the county or municipal ity has been ascertained by an assess ment for territorial and county taxes, for the reason that, until such an assesswas doing when he made that Jefferson of determining the value of the taxable property within the county or municipality, and hence there is no standard for ascertaining the limit of indebtedness that may be created within the purview of said act.

5. A newly organized county in this indebtedness, and issue warrants as an evidence thereof, prior to the making of territorial and county taxation, to meet Of A. F. Egglestee, Author of the Free Homes Lebby Circular, Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 26.—William Alli- of county government; and the incurring sessment for territorial and county taxes previous to the incurring of such indebt

Opinions in the following cases were handed down by the court today: BY CHIEF JUSTICE BURFORD. Morris Brown vs. Laura Donnelly, from Noble county; affirmed at cost of plain

Allen J. Acres vs. Warren K. Snyder from Noble county; affirmed at cost of plaintiff. Fire Extinguisher Manufacturing com-

pany vs. City of ePrry, from Noble coun-

ty; affirmed.

Benjamin L. Kutley vs. Mary Dykes from Noble county; the case is corrected to sustain the entire judgment below

affirmed. BY JUSTICE MATEE. W. T. Wyman vs. Virgite Herald; affirmed.

The following cases were dismissed:

Ellis vs. Territory. School District No. 5 vs. School Dis-Monroe Fruit Co. vs. Bottom & Co. Blackwell vs. Holt.

PEOPLE'S WILL PREVAILS Tecumoch's Coquell Confirms John M. Lawson on Warshal,

Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 36.-The people of Tecumsen held a city election to decide on Guihrie, O. T., Aug. M.-Alva may be re. a city marshal. A young man named John galed with a builfight in October, as the M. Lawson was the choice of the comfollowing from the Courier of that city munity and will be selected by the coun-

> Cleaned Clothes With Gasotine Guthrie, O. T., Aug. M .- At Enid Hugh Blanding, Jr., while cluesning clothes with gasoline, igniced it and was severely but not seriously burned.

Rome, Aug. M.-The pope today re-States croiser Olympia.



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